



Happy Columbus Day and welcome to the latest edition of **eNEWS** - the **PMEA Retired Member Network...** an informal alliance and forum for interconnecting retired music educators, and sharing their ideas, stories, successes, news, and views via this e-mail address. This is the second issue using the e-mail marketing program *Constant Contact*. Thanks for staying involved in PMEA and our profession!

Columbus Day... jokes?

Thanks to http://www.guy-sports.com/humor/saints/columbus_day_jokes.htm

(Do you know how hard it is to find truly funny Columbus Day humor?)

Unedited answers on history exams... (I'm glad I was a music teacher!)

"During the Renaissance America began. Christopher Columbus was a great navigator who discovered America while cursing about the Atlantic. His ships were called the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Fe. Later the Pilgrims crossed the Ocean, and that was called the Pilgrim's Progress. When they landed at Plymouth Rock, they were greeted by Indians, who came down the hill rolling their was hoops before them. The Indian squabs carried their cabooses, which proved very fatal to them. The winter of 1620 was a hard one for the settlers. Many people died and many babies were born. Captain John Smith was responsible for all this."

Shorties...

- "America had often been discovered before Columbus, but it had always been hushed up." — *Oscar Wilde*
- "What happed when Columbus was shot at by an Indian?
He had an arrow miss."
- "Why did the hungry Columbus eat the last candle?
He wanted a light snack."
- "Columbus went around the world in 1492. That isn't a lot of strokes when you consider the course." — *Lee Trevino*



Welcome to our newest retired members!

"Retirement is one of life's great milestones, a time of adjustment filled with fresh choices and new starts..." — Kenneth S. Shultz in his book *Happy Retirement: The Psychology of Reinvention*

Congratulations and BRAVO go to **Roseann Kello Barnes** and **Robert Drafall**, the respective 2004 PMEA District 12 Elementary Citation of Excellence Award recipient and 2014 PMEA District 4 High School Citation of Excellence Award recipient, who have now joined the ranks of more than 400 other PMEA music teachers "living the dream" in post full-time employment! Best wishes to both of you... from all of us retirees!

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Retirement gurus... revisited

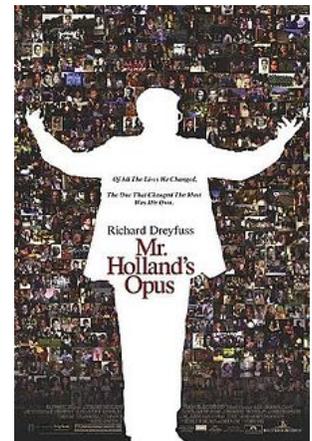
A community of writers have shared their successes and challenges for their personal up-and-down emotional passage to retirement (adding to the list from past eNEWS):

- **Dave Bernard** <http://lovebeingretired.com/>
- **Kathy Merlino** <https://kathysretirementblog.com/>
- **Jean Potuchek** <https://stepintofuture.wordpress.com/>
- **Barbara Torris** <http://www.retireinstyleblog.com/>
- **Ernie Zelinski** <http://www.retirement-cafe.com/>

Reminiscing... the final scene from my favorite movie

Trivia question: Grossing more than \$106 million at the box office, what movie about a music teacher's career is coming up to its 21st anniversary? Hint: What did Olympia Dukakis (portraying the principal "Mrs. Jacobs") give our hero Richard Dreyfuss when she told him she was retiring and why? Answer: A compass. So he would know which direction to go in life.

The movie **Mr. Holland's Opus** lays out a beautiful theme for music teacher retirees. That last scene and speech of his former student - a clarinet player who had struggled to get a good sound in his class, now serving as governor of the state - was so moving:



"Mr. Holland had a profound influence on my life and on a lot of lives I know. But I have a feeling that he considers a great part of his own life misspent. Rumor had it he was always working on this symphony of his. And this was going to make him famous, rich, probably both. But Mr. Holland isn't rich and he isn't famous, at least not outside of our little town. So it might be easy for him to think himself a failure. But he would be wrong, because I think that he's achieved a success far beyond riches and fame. Look around you. There is not a life in this room that you have not touched, and each of us is a better person because of you. **We are your symphony, Mr. Holland. We are the melodies and the notes of your opus. We are the music of your life.**"

— Joanna Gleason, portraying the Adult Gertrude Lang

PMEA Retired Members: Never forget the impact you have made on so many lives during your career! And, it was worth it!

Articles on the web

- **"How Being a Marching Band Director is Like Being a CEO"** by Joseph M. Pisano <http://mustech.net/2016/09/ceo-marching-band-director/>
- **"Building Community in the Choral Ensemble"** by Dr. David Holdhusen <http://www.nafme.org/building-community-choral-ensemble/>

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Focus on money for the retiring and the retired... U.S. News & World Report

"Five Big League Mistakes of the Newly Retired" by Geoff Williams

<http://money.usnews.com/money/personal-finance/articles/2016-09-30/5-big-league-mistakes-of-the-newly-retired>

1. Changing your life style in a rush.
2. Not planning for the unexpected.
3. Not talking to your spouse about how you each imagine life in retirement.
4. Taking Social Security benefits too early.
5. Being too conservative with your investments.



Excellent read... it may take time to consume the series of sub-articles on this topic!

Reflections on our recently departed...

Sadly, the months from January 2015 to October 2016 have been very hard. Prayers and condolences go to the families, friends, and colleagues of the late PMEA members Randi Carp, Ruth Miller Cox, Areta Kalogeras, Ginger Momyer, William Nash, Kevin Shellhamer, and C. Dean Streator.

If you missed an opportunity to honor their memory with a donation, you have several options. You can make a tax-deductible contribution to the **PMEA Scholarship Fund** (more info <http://www.pmea.net/resources/scholarships-and-awards/> or link to give <http://www.pmea.net/store/>). NAFME also extends an invitation to support their own **Give a Note Foundation** (see membership form or go to <https://www.giveanote.org/>). Or, if you prefer, send a check to the charity listed in each member's obituary (below).

Randi Carp

American Cancer Society
PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
800-227-2345
www.cancer.org

Ruth Miller Cox

Heather Miller Cox Fund: Colorectal Cancer
Lankenau Medical Center
100 Lancaster Avenue, Wynnewood, PA 19096

Areta Kalogeras

North Hills Instrumental Parents Association
c/o Len Lavelle, North Hills High School
53 Rochester Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15229

Ginger Momyer

The Presbyterian Church of Punxsutawney
106 East Union Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767

William Nash

Emmanuel Lutheran Church "Organ Fund"
150 N. Hanover St., Pottstown, PA 19464

Kevin Shellhamer

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
3 International Dr, #200, Rye Brook NY 10573

C. Dean Streator

Bethel Park Community Foundation for the
Dean Streator Tower Concert Series
PO Box 811, Bethel Park, PA 15102



Elections and revision of PMEA Bylaws

It is paramount that all retired members "make their voices heard" and respond to the official link when it is sent out by PMEA State Executive Director Abigail Young. It is a right and responsibility of membership, and we truly value our retired members' wisdom, experience, and vision in support of our professional association.

Voting will take place October 14-26, 2016. You will be choosing a new PMEA State President-Elect, General Music Content Area Representative, and Music Technology Content Area Representative. In addition, you will be asked to ratify up to five proposed amendments to the PMEA State Bylaws. You are advised to take the time to read through them prior to the election. Everything is posted in great detail at <http://www.pmea.net/about/>.

Retiree website of the month:

"10 Best Volunteer Activities in Retirement"

by Beth Brindle at <http://money.howstuffworks.com/economics/volunteer/retired-volunteer-programs/10-best-volunteer-activities-in-retirement.htm>

1. Habitat for Humanity
2. Helping troops, military families, and veterans
3. Working with children
4. Volunteer vacations
5. Hunger relief
6. Disaster relief
7. Docent or tour guide
8. Political campaigns
9. Legal advocate
10. Humane societies and animal shelters

Retiree online video of the month:

"The Longevity Economy"

New keynote address of gerontologist and CEO of AgeWave Ken Dychtwald:
<http://agewave.com/ken-dychtwald-on-the-longevity-economy/>.



Happy trails, retirees. Be sure you continue to look for these *Constant Contact* messages in your in-box. (If you have Gmail, make sure they are not "lost" in your "promotions" or spam folders, and never "unsubscribe" to them - if you ever want to receive future notifications from PMEA!) Please take care, and stay in touch! PKF

